

## Questions: A healthy church is... one where everyone plays their part

Romans 12:1-13

Here are some questions on Romans 12:1-13:

1. Why does Paul begin this passage by saying "*in view of God's mercy*" (12:1)?
2. Paul says we are to be a 'living sacrifice' in 12:1 - what does this mean?
3. Paul says in 12:2 that we should "*not conform to the pattern of this world*" – what "*pattern*" is that?
4. When Paul says in 12:2, "*be transformed by the renewing of your minds*", it means a *complete and utter replacement* of our old mind with a *new* mind. Why would this be necessary to "*test and approve what God's will is*"?
5. In 12:6-8, Paul lists seven gifts for the church to use: prophesying, serving, teaching, encouraging, generous giving, leading, showing mercy. Do you feel like you have any of these gifts? And have you been blessed by these gifts in others?
6. For each of the seven gifts listed, give an example of what this might look like in practice in the church family?
7. At St John's Gemma gave the example of how there is now an award in football for the 'playmaker' who is the player who makes the most assists to help score a goal, how sometimes our serving is like 'play makers' where we assist others through our role. Have you ever felt where you serve fits this category? Or has there been a 'playmaker' which was vital in your own journey to joining the church or remaining in the church?
8. Family fun: who is the person you know whose life looks most like the spiritual pattern Paul describes in 12:9-13!